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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [redacted]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY	Germany (Russian Zone)	DATE DISTR.	5 April 1951
SUBJECT	Production of Plants Belonging to VVB (Z) Alcid	NO. OF PAGES	2
PLACE ACQUIRED	[redacted] 25X1A	NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)	
DATE OF INFO.	25X1X	SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.	

[redacted]

1. The VVB(Z) Alcid's Chemical Factory in Coswig/Anhalt (U 52/E 27), formerly the Hans Schraube Chemical Factory, produced barium and strontium preparations, charcoal for absorbing gases, etc. (Aktivkohle) and also silicagel, a very efficient humidity-absorbing agent. Production had to be restricted considerably because of the shortage of raw materials, especially of barium sulphate which formerly was imported from West Germany. In mid-1949 the administration of the plant was merged with the Sulphuric acid and superphosphate plant, the former Fertilia Chemical Works A.G. in Coswig/Anhalt. (1)

2. The VVB(Z) Alcid's Heinrichshall Chemical Factory in Bad Koestritz (U 51/J 96), the former Eschirner and Schwarz Plant, produced sulphuric acid, sodium sulphide, aluminum sulphate and heat-processed phosphate (Gluehphosphate). The heatprocessed phosphate was produced according to a process developed by the technical manager Dr. Schaetzel, (fnu). In this process, a phosphoric fertilizer (Phosphorduengemittel) was allegedly made soluble in plant juices without being treated with sulphuric acid. The process consists of heating crude phosphate with an alkali sulphate, either Na_2SO_4 or K_2SO_4. (2) The experimental production of heat-processed phospate with sodium sulphate was suspended because this product supplied too much sodium salt to the soil. However the production of heat-processed phospate with potassium sulphate was considered of special importance for farming as the potash salt contained in the potassium sulphate remains fully potent in the heat-processed phosphate. The quality of the heat-processed phosphate was nevertheless questionable. As of fall 1950 it had been rejected by farmers because of its hydrogen sulphide odor. Though tests had not yet ended, large-scale production of heat-processed phosphate was allegedly to begin. Apart from the serious Soviet Zone shortage of superphosphates, the ambition of the Soviet chemical expert officer in Berlin-Karlshorst, Colonel Kalin, (fnu), was responsible for the premature planning of large-scale production of this phosphate. The Heinrichshall Plant was supposed to produce 20 tons of heat-processed phosphate daily by 1951.

3. The VVB(Z) Alcid's Ruedersdorf (U 53/V 04) Plant for the production of heat-processed phosphate was established in a section of the building of the dismantled Ruedersdorf [redacted]- and cement works. It was to be completed late in 1950, but [redacted] it would probably not be completed at the deadline because urgent reparations deliveries made it impossible for the Klysius SAG Machine Factory in Dessau (U 52/E 17) to deliver in the fall of 1950 the large rotary kiln ordered for Ruedersdorf. The Ruedersdorf Plant was scheduled to

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produce 100 tons of heat-processed phosphate daily.

4. About 30 percent of the Potash Chemical Plant, the former Kali-Chemie A.G., in Berlin-Niederschoeneweide, was destroyed during the war. In September 1950 the plant was in very poor condition technically speaking, and it was unprofitable. It produced sulphuric acid, milori blue, red potash and pharmaceutical products, especially strophantine preparations. X-ray screens were also produced. (3) Though this firm belongs to the VVB Alcid, the book-keeping (Bilanzierung) of this plant was separated from the VVB Alcid to conceal the connection of the Berlin Soviet Sector Industries with the industries of the Soviet Zone of Germany. The technical manager of the plant, Dr. Claus (fnu), fled to the west in the summer of 1949.

5. The VVB(Z) Alcid's Huettenwerk Aue, the former Staatliche Saechsische Huetten- und Blaufarbenwerke in Aue (N 51/K 53), was not in operation for a long time after 1945. Part of the plant installations had to be transferred to the Wismut Corporation. A factory manufacturing insecticides was established in the remaining section of the plant.

6. Tests for the production of 100 percent hydrofluoric acid were made in the Fluoride Works in Dohna ueber Heidenau (N 51/F 27), formerly the fluoride department of the Ruetgerswerke A.G. The laboratory tests were successful though the problem had so far been considered as technically unfeasible. Two former employees of the testing installation of the German Armed Forces were hired for a high salary to make the tests. However, a technical utilization of this test was not possible. (4)

25X1A [redacted] Comments.

(1) In 195[illegible] the Fertilia Plant produced about 46,000 tons of sulphuric acid and about 18,000 tons of superphosphate.
(2) The product made of crude phosphate and potassium sulphate was designated "Kali-phosphataloid". Among its ingredients are about 20 percent pure potash and about 17 percent phosphoric anhydride.
(3) The plant in Berlin-Niederschoeneweide produces Paris blue and milori blue on the basis of iron cyanide compounds. These colors are supplied to the color and lacquer factories of the entire Soviet Zone of Germany and of the Berlin Soviet Sector. The basic material for those blue colors is yellow potash which is produced in a plant-owned installation from cyanide meltings. The cyanide meltings are supplied to the plant by the SAG Plant in Piesteritz (M 52/E 37). However, the most important production of the plant in Berlin is sulphuric acid.
(4) In addition to fluorspar products the Fluoride Works produces also plastics on phenol-formaldehyde basis under the designations "Fluoresit-Harze","Fluoresit-Schleifscheibenharze" and "Fluoresit-Pressmasse".